Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A container which can be sealed around at least 4 kg of bananas and which, when sealed around the bananas, has an O_2 permeability at 13 °C, per kg of bananas in the container (OP13/kg), of at least 700 ml/atm.24 hrs, an R ratio at 13 °C of at least 3, and an ethylene permeability at 13 °C, per kg of bananas in the container (EtOP13/kg) which is at least 3 times the OP13/kg of the container.

2- 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A package which is at a temperature of 13-18°C and which comprises

(a) a sealed container, and

(b) within the sealed container, at least 4 kg of bananas which have not yet commenced ~~reached~~ their climacteric, and a packaging atmosphere around the bananas;

the sealed container having an O_2 permeability at 13 °C, per kg of bananas in the container (OP13/kg), of at least 1500 ml/atm.24 hrs, an R ratio at 13 °C of at least 3, and an ethylene permeability at 13 °C, per kg of bananas in the container (EtOP13/kg) which is at least 3 times the OP13/kg of the container; and the packaging atmosphere

(i) being substantially constant; and

(ii) containing 14 to 19% of O_2, and less than 10% of CO_2, with the total quantity of O_2 and CO_2 being less than 17 %.

12. (Original) a package according to claim 11 wherein the container includes at least one permeable control member which provides a pathway for O_2, CO_2 and

ethylene to enter or leave the packaging atmosphere and which comprises a gas permeable membrane comprising

(a) a microporous polymeric film, and

(b) a polymeric coating on the microporous film.

13. (Original) A package according to claim 12 wherein the gas-permeable membrane

(i) has a P_{10} ratio, over at least one 10°C range between -5 and 25 °C of at least 1.5, and

(ii) has an oxygen permeability (OTR), at all temperatures between 13 and 25°C, of at least 2,480,000 ml/m^2.atm.24 hrs (160,000 cc/100 $inch^2$.atm.24 hrs).

14. (Previously presented) A package according to Claim 13 wherein the microporous polymeric film comprises a network of interconnected pores having an average pore size of less than 0.24 micron, with at least 70% of the pores having a pore size of less than 0.24 micron.

15. (Original) A package according to Claim 14 wherein

(1) the pores in the microporous film constitute 35 to 80% by volume of the microporous film; and

(2) the microporous film comprises

(a) a polymeric matrix comprising (i) an essentially linear ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 18 deciliters/g, or (ii) an essentially linear ultrahigh molecular weight polypropylene having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 6 deciliters/g, or (iii) a mixture of (i) and (ii); and

(a) 30 to 90% by weight, based on the weight of the film, of a finely divided particulate substantially insoluble filler which is distributed throughout the film.

16-20. (canceled)

21. (New) A package which is at a temperature of 13-18°C and which comprises

(a) a sealed container which comprises

(i) a polyethylene bag, and

(ii) at least one permeable control member which provides a pathway for O_2, CO_2 and ethylene to enter or leave the packaging atmosphere and which comprises a gas-permeable membrane comprising a microporous polymeric film, and a polymeric coating on the microporous film; and

(b) within the sealed container, at least 4 kg of bananas which have not yet commenced their climacteric, and a packaging atmosphere around the bananas; and

the sealed container having an O_2 permeability at 13 °C, per kg of bananas in the container (OP13/kg), of at least 1500 ml/atm.24 hrs, an R ratio at 13 °C of at least 3, and an ethylene permeability at 13 °C, per kg of bananas in the container (EtOP13/kg) which is at least 3 times the OP13/kg of the container; and the packaging atmosphere

(i) being substantially constant;

(ii) being free of ethylene which has been added to the packaging atmosphere from a source of ethylene other than the bananas themselves, and

(iii) containing 14 to 19% of O_2, and less than 10% of CO_2, with the total quantity of O_2 and CO_2 being less than 17 %.

22. (New)) A package according to claim 21 wherein the gas-permeable membrane

(i) has a P_{10} ratio, over at least one 10°C range between -5 and 25 °C of at least 1.5, and

(ii) has an oxygen permeabllity (OTR), at all temperatures between 13 and 25°C, of at least 2,480,000 ml/m^2.atm.24 hrs (160,000 cc/100 $Inch^2$.atm.24 hrs).

23. (New) A package according to Claim 22 wherein the microporous polymeric film comprises a network of interconnected pores having an average pore size of less than 0.24 micron, with at least 70% of the pores having a pore size of less than 0.24 micron.

24. (New) A package according to Claim 23 wherein

(1) the pores in the microporous film constitute 35 to 80% by volume of the microporous film; and

(2) the microporous film comprises

(a) a polymeric matrix comprising (i) an essentially linear ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 18 deciliters/g, or (ii) an essentially linear ultrahigh molecular weight polypropylene having an intrinsic viscosity of at least 6 deciliters/g, or (iii) a mixture of (i) and (ii); and

(b) 30 to 90% by weight, based on the weight of the film, of a finely divided particulate substantially insoluble filler which is distributed throughout the film.

25. (New) A package according to claim 21 wherein the sealed container contains only the bananas.